**Special Food Processing Zones**

†1954. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Special Zones set up by his Ministry in Uttar Pradesh till now; and

(b) the steps taken for the food processing of fruits and vegetables in Uttar Pradesh and the schemes launched so far and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The Ministry, under its plan scheme for Infrastructure Development, provides financial assistance for provision of common facilities in Food Parks such as power supply, water supply, cold storage, warehousing facilities, effluent treatment plant, food testing analytical laboratories, common processing facilities etc. The Ministry has approved 5 Food parks for providing financial assistance in Uttar Pradesh. The Ministry does not set up Food Parks on its own.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, under its various other plan schemes provides financial assistance in the form of grant in aid to various implementing agencies, for the overall development of Food Processing Industry. The existing Xth Plan Schemes of the Ministry are as under:

1. Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries.
2. Scheme for Human Resource Development.
3. Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards and R&D.
4. Scheme for Strengthening of Nodal Agencies.
5. Scheme for Backward and Forward Integration and other promotional activities.
6. Scheme for Infrastructure Development.

The Ministry has approved 127 proposals for financial assistance under the different schemes during the Xth Plan period and has released an assistance of Rs. 27.21 crore in Uttar Pradesh during this period.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.